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PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, Philadelphia. — February 24th. Professor Cope gave a history of the progress of the doctrine of evolution of animal and vegetable types. (This is printed elsewhere in this number of the NATURALIST.) Dr. Allen called attention to a remarkably prognathous human skull, from Australia, belonging to the academy, in which the monkey-like characters were unusually apparent. Other peculiarities observable only by anatomical experts were pointed out. A paper by Dr. Charles A. White, entitled Descriptions of Fossils from Palæozoic Rocks of Iowa was presented for publication.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, St. Louis. — February 7th. Prof. C. V. Riley remarked on insectivorous plants, stating that while *Drosera*, *Dionæa*, etc., actually digest animal matter, the only benefit *Sarracenia* received from captured insects was from the liquid manure resulting from their putrescent bodies.

SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, Boston. — February 16th. Prof. William B. Rogers presented some geological notes on the thickness of the Virginia Tertiaries as indicated by the artesian borings at Fortress Monroe; on the Upper Secondary Sandstone of Virginia as including an ancient drift, and its relation to the post-tertiary cobble-stone deposit; with suggestions in explanation of the course assumed by all the great rivers of the Middle States on entering the region of tide-water.

Professor W. G. Farlow remarked on the nature and mode of growth of the "black knot" of plum and cherry trees. This is an American fungus, and has spread from our wild plums and cherries to the cultivated trees. Professor Farlow recommended the wholesale destruction of our wild species, especially *Prunus Virginiana*, as breeders of the disease, which, if followed up by careful pruning of trees in cultivation, could not fail finally to eradicate the black knot.

CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB. — January 14th. It was voted that a publication fund should be established, amounting to at least two thousand dollars, the interest of which should be expended in publishing *Psyche*, as in no other way would it be possible to maintain the publication of the Bibliographical Record of North American Entomology, which is already recognized as more complete than any other similar record of any department of science. A committee was appointed to obtain this fund.

Mr. Scudder pointed out the presence of some hitherto unparalleled glands in the thorax of *Anisomorpha buprestoides*, and presented a paper upon the subject for publication in *Psyche*.

Mr. J. H. Stebbins, Jr., mentioned the capture, near London, of a *Papilio Machaon* which had five wings. The specimen is now in the British Museum.

February 11th. Mr. Scudder said that he considered that Mr. Riley

had proved by his recent investigations that *Megathymus yuccæ* is a butterfly, and forms a new group of Urbicolæ.

Mr. Scudder exhibited a dissection of *Autolyca pallidicornis*, to show the interior glands corresponding to the prothoracic excretory openings to which he had called attention at the previous meeting, when speaking of the function of these organs in *Anisomorpha buprestoides* (*Spectrum bivittatum*) and in Phasmidæ generally.

Mr. Fewkes exhibited drawings to show the structure and position of these glands. Mr. Dimmock exhibited wings of Microlepidoptera which had been bleached and mounted as microscopic objects; some of these had been colored after bleaching, so as to show that the scales still remained.

TROY SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION. — February 21st. Wm. E. Hagen read a paper on the curiosities of gold and gold mining, giving prominence to those facts that might have given plausibility to the theory of the derivative character of this metal. An abstract of this paper will be published in another number of this journal.

SCIENTIFIC SERIALS.¹

THE ANNALS AND MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY. — January. On the Classification of Scorpions, by T. Thorell. First Report of the Naturalist accompanying the Transit of Venus Expedition to Kerguelen's Island in 1874 (conclusion), by A. E. Eaton.

MONTHLY MICROSCOPICAL JOURNAL. — February. Remarks on the Foraminifera, with especial Reference to their Variability of Form, illustrated by the Cristellarians, by T. Rupert Jones.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE. — January. The Swedish Arctic Expedition. The Malayan Peninsula, by H. St. John. On former Physical Aspects of the Caspian, by H. Wood. Is it Possible to Unite the Black Sea and the Caspian? by D. Ker. The Western Sahara, by E. G. Ravenstein (with a map). February. Dr. Beccari's Recent Visit to New Guinea, by H. H. Giglioli.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE. — March. Structure of *Obolella chromatica*, by E. Billings. On the Damming of Streams by Drift Ice during the Melting of the great Glacier, by J. D. Dana. On Flint Implements from the Stratified Drift of Richmond, Va., by C. M. Wallace. Principal Characters of the Tillodontia, by O. C. Marsh.

THE GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE. — February. Sketch of the Geology of Ice and Bell Sounds, Spitzbergen, by A. E. Nordenskiöld. Remarks on the New Hebrides Group, by H. Hosken.

NATURE. — January 27th, and February 3d. Professor Tyndall on Germs. Professor Nordenskiöld on the Jenisei.

¹ The articles enumerated under this head will be for the most part selected.